

CHEAPER TELEPHONES

A New Company Wants a Franchise in Topeka.

GEORGE R. PECK A STOCKHOLDER

To the New Company—The Rates Expected to be \$25 and \$15.

A new and cheaper telephone service is promised for Topeka, if the request for a franchise made by the Harrison International Telephone company is granted.

This request was made by H. S. Buck, the western agent of the company, and also by Capt. Joe Waters, its attorney.

The company is one, the organization of which over a year ago was a matter of newspaper comment. It has its headquarters in the Chamber of Commerce building, Chicago, and George R. Peck "of Western avenue," is one of the stockholders and directors, and is also its general solicitor. One of the Chicago companies proposes to put in telephones at \$25 a year for business houses, and \$15 for residences.

To the Honorable Mayor and Council of the City of Topeka:

The undersigned, the Harrison International Telephone company, an incorporated company of Chicago, would respectfully request from your body the right and franchise to transact a telephone business in Topeka for it and its agents.

The company believes it has a complete and satisfactory telephone and one that can be operated by reason of its greatly lessened expense at a very reasonable and moderate charge. The representative of this company would be pleased to meet any committee of your body and give such information as he would possess at any time it might be convenient.

The company would very much desire to come into the city and transact business under the same rights and restrictions heretofore and now accorded the present company, with such other restrictions and safeguards as might be adopted.

Very Respectfully,
THE HARRISON TELEPHONE COMPANY,
By H. S. BUCK, its agent,
WATERS & WATERS,

Attorneys for the company.

The matter was referred to the committee on ways and means.

The principal feature of the new telephone is that the "control" young lady and the everlasting "hello" is done away with. Mr. Buck explains this to a Journal reporter by saying:

"It is simply enough. There is a dial on the face of the telephone, not unlike that of a clock. You want a certain number. You go to the instrument, and by touching a certain attachment you turn the automatic indicator to the number on the dial wanted, and then press a button. That is all there is in it. You place the receiver to your ear and you get a response. If the instrument called is busy, the party wanted talking to somebody else, there is an indicator on the dial of your phone which informs you at once of the fact. If the party wanted is not in or does not answer at once, by pressing a button you can keep on ringing until he answers or you are satisfied that he is not in the room or office."

The Harrison telephone system is now in successful operation at Ft. Smith, Ark., where there are 300 in use; at Van Buren, Ark., Springfield, Mo., Piedmont, West Virginia, Lebanon, Mo., Santa Fe, N. M.; Durango, Colo., Memphis, Tenn., asking for 13,000 instruments; Elkhart, Ind., and at many other points. It will cost \$35,000 to equip the Decatur plant with 500 or 600 phones, and after they are in use, they will become so popular that within a short time over 1,000 instruments will be in place, with many private wires strung to expedite business.

Mr. Buck and Mr. Waters may have as hard a time getting a franchise to compete with the Missouri & Kansas Telephone company, the company of John R. Mulvaney, & A. B. Campbell, did in bucking Col. Holliday's Excelsior gas company. The sad history of this measure is an example that makes other applicants say, and none but the most persistent will succeed. Mr. Buck and Mr. Waters will make similar applications in several other Kansas towns. Mr. Buck says the expiring of the patent of the Bell telephone company had no direct result on his company as Dr. Harrison, discoverer and inventor of the system bearing his name, has patents of his own, secured only after a long but successful legal fight with the Bell people.

Little vegetative health producers. Dr. Witt's Little Fairy Rivers cure malarious disorders and regulate the stomach and bowels, which prevents headache and dizziness. J. K. Jones.

Consumptives obtain relief by using Ayer's Cherry Pectoral. No other cure is so effective.

When You Can Buy

4 Tin Pint Cups..... 10¢

Gallon Oil Cans..... 17¢

Galvanized Water Pails..... 25¢

Dinner Pails..... 35¢

GOLD COIN STOVES CHEAP.

Lamp Oil Stoves..... \$.65

1 Set Chisels..... 4.50

Door Locks..... .25

Steel Shovels..... .72

Steel Hatchets..... .35

Lanterns..... .45

Tin Japanned Chamber Pails..... .35

Buy Hardware and Tinware of

Shelden & Shelden,

702 KANS. AVE.

SOCIAL AND PERSONAL.

Items of Interest About Topeka People and Visitors to Town.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Shepherd, near Bellview, was the scene of a pleasant gathering last evening, it being the tenth anniversary of their marriage.

About fifty of their neighbors and friends came in and gave them an agreeable surprise, bringing with them many gifts of tinware and the necessaries for preparing luncheon.

The evening was spent in social conversation and music. Mr. Shepherd spoke fitting words of welcome and appreciation, after which the company dispersed, each wishing Mr. and Mrs. Shepherd many more years of happy wedded life.

Many of the musical people of the city met last evening with Prof. Leib, of Kansas City, in the parlor of the National. A chorus was formed under his direction, and there will be another meeting next week in the Masonic building.

The L. O. T. B. club will play the first of a series of progressive high five games at the home of the Misses Crane Friday evening, February 19.

Miss Rena Chesney entertained thirty of her friends at a fancy golf Saturday afternoon.

Mr. Milton Hamilton of Barney, La., is visiting his cousin, Mrs. J. B. Riggs on West Laurent street. She entertained a few friends informally last evening at high tea.

Miss May Rusamer of Lawrence, who has visited in Topeka several times, will be married tonight to Mr. E. Shaw.

Mrs. Hopkins, Walter Burgess and Theo. Wear will attend a party in Lawrence tonight.

Miss Leslie Grinn will give a valentine party at her home in Lawrence Hill.

Miss Mabel Andrews has returned to her home in St. Louis.

Miss Jean McKee has returned to Lawrence.

The Ivy Circle will meet this evening with Misses Ellis and Minnie King.

Mrs. J. P. Furnsworth is ill at her home on Tyler street.

Miss Edith Carpenter will give a card party Friday night.

Mr. Frank Palmer arrived Sunday from Chicago.

Mrs. F. H. Strickler entertained her Sunday school class Saturday afternoon.

John A. Gibbons of Kansas City spent Sunday in town.

Miss Daisy Star and Marie Brooks will go to Lawrence Friday to attend the Kappa Kappa Gamma party.

A. F. Wilder has returned from a trip through Kansas and Missouri.

Ed Gresham of Chicago is stopping a few days in town on his way from the Mid-winter fair.

Miss Rose Height returned this evening from Addison, where she has been spending a week with her friend, Miss Mabel Ross. She also visited her brother Luther who is a student in Midwinter college.

SNAP SHOTS AT HOME NEWS.

Lewis Bradford has started to Washburn college.

Forty men applied to the post commissioners for work yesterday.

The board of managers of the Y. W. C. A. are holding their regular meeting this afternoon.

Men who saw wood for the poor commissioner receive 15 cents an hour for their services.

Mrs. J. H. McCaskey, wife of the superintendent of the asylum is a student at Bethany college.

The funeral of Mrs. John Plath took place this afternoon from the family residence, 500 Clay street.

Frank Brown a boy ten years old, whose mother is in the Insane asylum, has been sent to the Orphans home.

There will be a meeting of all the officers of the Associated Charities at Library hall Thursday evening.

County Superintendent Wright has issued eleven certificates to teachers who passed the recent examination.

The clothing stock of C. A. Nelson has been attached to satisfy a claim of \$600 of the Nagg-Anderson woolen mill company.

This paper does not object to the moralizing paper copying its articles, but it is well advised to make us spell woolen "woolen."

G. C. Clemens is the superintendent of a socialist Sunday school which meets in the Office block and studies "Christian Socialism."

Rev. R. Wake will read a paper on "Preaching as Profession," at the district conference at the First M. E. church this evening.

The county furnishes work every day for forty-five men, twenty men are working at the stone quarry and twenty-five are on the wood pile.

General J. C. Caldwell at the last meeting of the County Teachers' Association, reviewed the progress of the world during the last fifty years.

A new musical club was organized in the parlors of the National last night. The club will meet next Monday evening in the Masonic block.

The fight between Sells & Remington and Sells Brothers which is to be contested in the circuit court of this county, is soon to be tried. The damages asked for amount to about \$200,000.

There was a small blaze about 9:45 o'clock last night in a one-story building located on railroad ground, between Madison and Jefferson streets in North Topeka. The damage was light.

Seventeen pensioners who draw their quarterly allowances from the government through the Topeka pension office have received notice that they have been suspended as pensioners for an indefinite period.

At the memorial meeting at Representative Hall last night in memory of the late J. C. Hebard, speeches were made by F. B. Johnson, Albert Grimm, Mrs. Sam Wood, J. H. Lathrop, A. C. Shinn and Mrs. Mary E. Lease. There was a large audience present.

A Leavenworth man, James F. O'Connor by name, has been endorsed by the local Trades Assembly for the position of state labor commissioner. A Leavenworth dispatch says Governor Lewelling when at Leavenworth recently said he intended to remove Todd.

New Line to California.

The Rock Island now runs daily a through tourist sleeper from Topeka to Los Angeles and San Francisco via Ft. Worth and El Paso. This, the southernmost route, is free from snow blockades.

The sum of \$350 was appropriated out of the sinking fund to pay for the Lauren street paving.

The expenses of the city in January were \$21,185.90.

Mr. Bradford the new member was appointed on the following committees: the ways and means, claims and accounts, finance, gas and electric light.

For additional information call on or address H. O. GARVEY, City Passenger Agent.

CITY COUNCIL MEETS.

S. B. Bradford Appointed Councilman from Third Ward.

POLICE BOARD BILL CUT DOWN.

Other Matters of Importance Acted on by the Council Last Evening.

Three important appointments were made by Mayor T. W. Harrison at the meeting of the city council last night. He presented the names of S. B. Bradford to be councilman from the Third ward, the place made vacant by the election of himself to the office of mayor. George D. Hale to be city assessor to succeed Oscar Bischoff, and David D. Naylor to be street commissioner vice Albert Hopkins, resigned. All of these appointments were confirmed.

In nominating Mr. Bradford the mayor said he had considerable trouble finding a man who was willing to make city business primary and not secondary. He had decided on Mr. Bradford as a man capable by experience to fill the office. He is ex-attorney general and has lived in Kansas twenty-five years. In Topeka twelve years. Mr. Bradford accepted and took the oath of office last night.

In the matter of a city assessor the attorney reported that there were three laws on the subject all equally operative which control the appointment of an assessor. One of these makes it necessary for the mayor to make the appointment on the first Monday in February. It is an open secret that Mr. Bischoff, the present incumbent, objects to leaving office and says he will fight his removal in the courts.

The appointment of Mr. Naylor was the natural sequence of Mr. Hopkins' resignation.

EXPUNGS.

As foreshadowed in the JOURNAL last evening Mr. Griggs, of the Fifth ward, made a motion to expunge from the records of the council that part of the mayor's veto message referring to "star chamber methods; grips and pass words are very well in the social lodge room, but they have no place in the legislative business of the city government." The veto message on the Bartow resolution was also expunged.

"I move to strike out," Mr. Griggs said, "because that part of the message is unnecessary and untrue."

The mayor replied: "There is more truth in the charge than I included in the message. That was a conservative statement. I am indifferent whether the motion prevails or not." The resolution did prevail unanimously.

About the Police.

The police came near getting no pay this month, and as it is the new sanitary officer must go without pay, and the captain, two sergeants, and the sanitary sergeant must go without. This is the continuation of the unpleasantness between the council and the police board, which has been a matter of general comment heretofore. The lengthy resolution refusing to comply with the council's orders, signed by Commissioner Yount, was read in full. Chairman Holman, of the claims and accounts committee, recommended that the police payroll and expense account, amounting in all to \$1,568.44, be referred to the whole council for consideration. In doing so Mr. Holman read from the section of the law which provides that in cities of the first class there shall not be to exceed 1 police officer to every 1,500 inhabitants. He said, Topeka, according to the last census, had 34,000 people, and is therefore entitled to 22 police officers. He said there were 26 on the payroll, or 4 in excess of the lawful number. Mr. Holman said also that the law made no provision for salaries of more than \$60 a month in this department, except the chief and the police judge. He reminded them that Captain Gish, Sergeants Donovan and Steele and Sanitary Sergeant Hudson all got more than \$60.

Mr. Fellows asked, "Can we place no limit on the police board, or are we at the mercy of those fellows? We asked them to keep within \$300. Now their bill is \$1,600. The next one may be \$2,000."

City Attorney Tillotson reported that the council was bound to pay all the "reasonable" bills of the police board. The council must decide whether the bill is "reasonable." They can do nothing indirectly that they cannot do directly. They cannot appoint a sanitary force, and therefore they can't appoint special police for sanitary duty. If they can run the sanitary department, they can run the fire department, and the street force, and all the other departments.

Mr. Holman is right on the proposition that the chief and Judge are the only ones entitled to more than \$60 a month." Mr. Tillotson said the payroll should be allowed after the modifications named were made to it. This was done. The bill was cut down from \$4,500 to \$1,200, and it was allowed.

Other Matters.

All members of the council were present last night.

Mr. Bradford was excused at 10:20 to catch a train to Bellview where he is to appear in court today.

The police arrested 104 people last month, from whom \$302.50 was collected. Sixteen dollars was collected from the pound.

Col. Burgess' ordinance to make butchers close their markets on Sundays during the winter months was referred to the ways and means committee.

The matter of repairing the electric light plant was referred to the committee on public buildings with power to act.

The engineer has prepared estimates for the repairs and the clerk will advertise for bids.

A resolution to open Locust street from Sixth to Seventh by Mr. Ernest was adopted.

A resolution by Mr. Fulton was adopted ordering the mayor to appoint a dog catcher to enforce all the provisions of the ordinance against stray dogs, to protect the property and persons of the people of Topeka. This is to check the mad dog scare in the Martin & Dennis addition.

The streets and walls committee recommended the repair of the pavement in places where the guarantees of the asphalt company have expired.

The sum of \$350 was appropriated out of the sinking fund to pay for the Lauren street paving.

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The petition of the Topeka foundry for

permission to build a cupola furnace in which to melt iron, was granted.